

Mark 14:26-15:72
What's so Amazing About God's Grace?
May 22, 2011
Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. **Amazing Grace?**

- A. God Should Save Me: "Unbelievers are not shocked & surprised that God loves them"
- B. God Should not Save Me: Discouraged Legalists

Key Idea

God's grace is amazing because we all deserve His wrath but instead we get a perfect substitute to stand in our place!

- C. The Unbelief of the Disciples Hits Us Closest to Home

II. **Unrealistic Expectations**

Mark 14:26–31

²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷ And Jesus said to them, "**You will all fall away**, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' ²⁸ *But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.*" ²⁹ **Peter** said to him, "*Even though they all fall away, I will not.*" ³⁰ And **Jesus** said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹ But he said emphatically, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." And *they all said the same.*

III. **Unbelief that Leads to Fear**

- A. The 'Last Stand' in the Garden

Mark 14:46-47

⁴⁶ And they laid hands on him and seized him. ⁴⁷ But **one of those who stood by** drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and *cut off his ear.*

(Cf. John 18:10)

Luke 22:49–51

⁴⁹ And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him.

Matthew 26:52-54

⁵² Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³ Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?”

Mark 14:50

⁵⁰ And they all left him and fled.

B. Peter’s Fear Reveals His Poverty of Spirit

Mark 14:66–72 (Cf. John 18:15)

⁶⁶ And as **Peter** was below in the courtyard, *one of the servant girls* of the high priest came, ⁶⁷ and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “*You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus.*” ⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, “I neither know nor understand what you mean.” And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. ⁶⁹ And *the servant girl* saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, “*This man is one of them.*” ⁷⁰ But again he denied it. And after a little while *the bystanders* again said to Peter, “*Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.*” ⁷¹ But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know this man of whom you speak.” ⁷² And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered ... And he broke down and wept. (Cf. Luke 22:61)

Matthew 5:3-4

³ “Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ “Blessed are those who **mourn**, for they shall be comforted.

IV. Summary & Application

A. Religious Unbelief:

Luke 24:17–26

¹⁷ And he said to them, “*What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?*” And they stood still, **looking sad**. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named **Cleopas**, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹ And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “*Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,* ²⁰ *and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him.* ²¹ ***But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.*** Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²² *Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning,* ²³ *and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive.* ²⁴ *Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.*” ²⁵ And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and **slow of heart to believe** all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ **Was it not necessary that the Christ should *suffer* these things and enter into his glory?”**

Hebrews 3:12

¹² Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an **evil, unbelieving heart**, leading you to fall away from the living God.

B. Unbelief leads to Idolatry

C. Battling Unbelief

Matthew 6:25–33

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, **do not be anxious** about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and *your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.* ³³ But **seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.**